

Approved For Release 2004/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00369R000200090037-5

UPI-143

(ESPIONAGE)

TURIN, ITALY--ITALIAN POLICE SAID TODAY THEY WERE INFORMED OF ARRESTS IN SWITZERLAND, SPAIN AND CYPRUS IN AN INTERNATIONAL CRACKDOWN ON AN ALLEGED SOVIET SPY RING OPERATING WITHIN THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO).

ABOUT 300 PERSONS INCLUDING AMERICANS WERE NAMED BY ACCUSED SPY GIORGIO (THE FLYING MANDMAN) RINALDI AS PART OF THE RUSSIAN ESPIONAGE NETWORK HE SAID HE HEADED. THE SPY RING WAS SAID TO EXTEND FROM SCANDINAVIA TO THE INDIAN OCEAN.

POLICE HERE SAID THEY HAD NO DETAILS OF THE ARRESTS REPORTED THURSDAY BUT THEY BELIEVED THE PERSONS PICKED UP WERE "MINOR FIGURES."

SPOKESMEN IN PARIS FOR NATO DENIED REPORTS THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED NATO OFFICERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE RING.

RINALDI, A PARACHUTIST AND JAMES BOND FAN, HIS WIFE AND CHAUFFEUR WERE ARRESTED EIGHT DAYS AGO BY ITALIAN SECURITY AGENTS.

SOURCES SAID INFORMATION OBTAINED BY RINALDI ABOUT AMERICANS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE NETWORK WERE TURNED OVER TO CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) AGENTS.

Approved F83 Release 2004/06/14 : CIA-RDP69B00369R000200090037-5